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### UM hosts Montana Supreme Court hearings

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# The University of Montana

## NEWS RELEASE

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April 12, 1996

### UM HOSTS MONTANA SUPREME COURT HEARINGS

#### MISSOULA --

The University of Montana School of Law invites area residents, high school students and members of the University community to see and hear the Montana Supreme Court at work Friday, April 19, at UM.

The court will convene at 10 a.m. in the Montana Theatre of the Performing Arts and Radio/Television Center. An overview of the judicial process and a summary of the two appeals to be argued will begin the proceedings.

Starting at 10:30 a.m. the court will hear the argument in the first case, presented by law Associate Professor Melissa Harrison. This criminal case concerns whether a lawyer should withdraw as counsel if he or she believes the client intends to commit perjury at trial. It also explores to what extent a lawyer may disclose client confidences in seeking to withdraw.

The second argument, starting at 2 p.m., is an appeal in a contested child custody case about the constitutionality of a court order giving custody to a nonparent instead of a parent. Law Professor David J. Patterson will argue the case.

The Montana Supreme Court hearings are part of Law Weekend '96, sponsored by UM's law school. The weekend schedule also includes a symposium on women and the judicial selection process Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon in Law Building Room 204. A dedication ceremony for the William J. Jameson Law Library will begin at 2 p.m.

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